covering unpaid wages, sacrifices, if any, to be made by the workers and any future conditionalities at least for a period of three years with a view to start the factory with their co-operation.

Budgetary Allocation for Food and Sugar Subsidy

1292. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budgetary allocation for food and sugar subsidies during the current year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the allocation proved to be inadequate particularly due to increased carrying cost of foodgrains; and

(c) if so, whether enhancement of the allocation for the next year is being contemplated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The budgetary allocation for food and sugar subsidies in the year 1999-2000 are as under:-

(Rs. in Crores)

	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates
Food	8200	9200
Sugar	360	235

(b) The increase in the allocation of food subsidy is mainly due to settlement of pending claims for previous years of the Food Corporation of India.

(c) No, Sir.

Acceptance of Rs. 500 Currency Notes

1293. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a panic like situation has been created in the public mind due to refusal by many shops/business establishments to accept Rs. 500/- currency notes; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) A few instances of some shops/business establishments refusing to accept 500 rupee notes have been brought to the notice of Reserve Bank of India.